

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A process for the treatment of leather, comprising:

(a) applying at least one cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition to leather by roll coating and/or roll application and/or spray application and subsequently

(b) treating the leather with an anionic leather treatment composition in a drum,

wherein the cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition used in process step

(a) is an epichlorohydrinamine polymer, the polymer having a weight average molar mass of from  $1 \cdot 10^2$  to  $2 \cdot 10^5$  g/mol, wherein the concentration of the polymer in water ranges from 5 to 50% by weight based on water.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the leather is dried between process step (a) and (b) and/or wherein the leather resulting from process step (b) is dried.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): A process for the treatment of leather, comprising:

(a) applying at least one cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition to leather by roll coating and/or roll application and/or spray application with simultaneous use of organic and/or inorganic pigments and/or anionic leather treatment compositions and

(b) optionally drying the leather treated in this manner.

Claim 16 (Canceled):

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition used in process step (a) is an epichlorohydrinamine polymer, the polymer having a weight average molar mass of from  $1 \cdot 10^2$  to  $2 \cdot 10^5$  g/mol.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the epichlorohydrinamine polymer in the cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition used in process step (a) comprises amine units and epichlorohydrin units, the ratio of amine units to epichlorohydrin units being from 0.8 : 1.2 to 1.2 : 0.8.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition used in process step (a) comprises amine units and epichlorohydrin units, the ratio of amine units to epichlorohydrin units being from 0.8 : 1.2 to 1.2 : 0.8.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the amine units comprise from 0.5 to 0.8 part of dimethylaminopropylamine and from 0.2 to 0.5 part of benzylamine.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the amine units comprise from 0.5 to 0.8 part of dimethylaminopropylamine and from 0.2 to 0.5 part of benzylamine.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the epichlorohydrinamine polymer in the treatment composition in process step (a) has at least two general structural units (I) and (II)



where  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  have the following meanings:

$\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$        $-(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{OH}$ , -  
 $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$

$\text{R}^3$ :                H or alkyl,

$\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$ :    H or OH.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the treatment composition in process step (a) has at least two general structural units (I) and (II)



where  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  have the following meanings:

$\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$        $-(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{OH}$ , -  
 $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$

$\text{R}^3$ :                H or alkyl,

$\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$ :    H or OH.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anionic treatment composition is at least one composition selected from the group consisting of dyes, fatliquoring agents and retanning agents.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the anionic treatment composition is at least one composition selected from the group consisting of dyes, fatliquoring agents and retanning agents.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition in process step (a) is applied only to the crust surface of the leather.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cationic or amphoteric treatment composition in process step (a) is applied only to the crust surface of the leather.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): A process for fixing dyes, pigments or fats on a leather surface, for reducing the dye use in solid hues, for improving the fastness of pigment coats, for the production of spotted leather, for the production of fashion effects, for the production of two-color effects by subsequent drum dyeing or for achieving a higher fastness level, comprising:

- (a) applying at least one cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition to leather by roll coating and/or roll application and/or spray application and subsequently
- (b) treating the leather with an anionic leather treatment composition in a drum.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): A process for fixing dyes, pigments or fats on a leather surface, for reducing the dye use in solid hues, for improving the fastness of pigment coats, for the production of spotted leather, for the production of fashion effects, for the production of two-color effects by subsequent drum dyeing or for achieving a higher fastness level, comprising:

- (a) applying at least one cationic or amphoteric aqueous treatment composition to leather by roll coating and/or roll application and/or spray application with simultaneous use of organic and/or inorganic pigments and/or anionic leather treatment compositions and
- (c) optionally drying the leather treated in this manner.